

Ray Hemminger

REMARKS

SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

STELLA JENSEN DINNER

ROCHESTER, MINNESOTA

OCTOBER 11, 1971

Mary Swanger  
(wabebe)  
1st Dist Chr Women

Tom Lindstroth  
Chr

Reprs  
Bill Quirin  
Hugh Plunkett  
Senators  
George Conzenius

Rep Neil Haugen  
Rep Dick Semple

I AM VERY PLEASED TO BE HERE BECAUSE I AM TALKING TONIGHT TO THE KIND OF PEOPLE I LIKE TO VISIT WITH. I'M TALKING TO THE PEOPLE WHO MAKE VICTORY POSSIBLE FOR OUR DEMOCRATIC PARTY -- HARD-WORKING, LOYAL DEMOCRATS. AND I AM ESPECIALLY PLEASED TO JOIN WITH YOU IN HONORING AN INDIVIDUAL WHO HAS CONTRIBUTED MUCH TO THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY. HENRY FORD SPOKE A BASIC TRUTH WHEN HE SAID THAT "YOU CAN'T BUILD A REPUTATION ON WHAT YOU ARE GOING TO DO." WELL, HE IS RIGHT. STELLA JENSEN, WHOM WE HONOR TONIGHT, IS NOT A TALKER; STELLA IS A DOER.

IN HIS LETTER OF INVITATION TO THIS WONDERFUL OCCASION, HUGH PLUNKETT EXPLAINED TO ME THAT MANY OF STELLA'S FRIENDS IN THE FIRST DISTRICT WISHED TO HAVE A TESTIMONIAL AFFAIR FOR HER IN RECOGNITION OF HER YEARS OF DEVOTED SERVICE TO THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY NATIONALLY AND TO THE DFL HERE IN MINNESOTA, THE FIRST DISTRICT AND MOWER COUNTY.

WHILE I KNOW MANY OF YOU ARE FAMILIAR WITH HER ACTIVITIES, I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO REVIEW FOR YOU STELLA'S SERVICE TO OUR DFL PARTY.

Vice Ch-  
mower  
county  
1956-58

STELLA FIRST BECAME INVOLVED IN MOWER COUNTY DFL POLITICS IN 1955. SHE SERVED AS VICE CHAIRWOMAN OF THE MOWER COUNTY DFL FROM 1956 TO 1958.

From 1958 to 1966, STELLA WAS MOWER COUNTY DFL CHAIRWOMAN.

THEN, FROM 1965 UNTIL 1971, WHEN LEGISLATIVE REDISTRICTING REMOVED MOWER COUNTY FROM THE FIRST DISTRICT, STELLA SERVED AS DFL FIRST DISTRICT CHAIRWOMAN. THIS IS QUITE A RECORD INDEED!

WHILE ADDRESSING A LUNCHEON OF DEMOCRATIC WOMEN DURING THE 1960 CAMPAIGN, PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE JOHN F. KENNEDY JOKED SAYING, "I BELIEVE THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY CAN DO THE JOB BEST, AND I COME AND ASK YOUR HELP IN DOING IT. THERE'S AN OLD SAYING -- 'NEVER SEND A BOY TO DO A MAN'S JOB -- SEND A LADY'."

WELL, LET ME TELL YOU, IT WAS NOT ONLY MOWER COUNTY AND THE FIRST DISTRICT THAT RECOGNIZED STELLA JENSEN'S ABILITY AND DEDICATION. In 1961, PRESIDENT KENNEDY APPOINTED HER TO THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE ON HANDICAPPED YOUTH. SHE SERVED ON THIS NATIONAL COMMITTEE UNTIL 1963. AND THEN, IN THAT YEAR, GOVERNOR ROLVAAG ASKED STELLA TO USE HER KNOWLEDGE AND ABILITY ON BEHALF OF THE CHILDREN OF MINNESOTA, WHEN HE APPOINTED HER TO THE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE FOR AID TO DEPENDENT CHILDREN. SHE SERVED THE STATE IN THIS CAPACITY UNTIL 1966.

Nat. Committee  
on Handicapped  
youth  
Gov Rolvaag  
Aid to  
Dependent  
Children

BUT, MEANWHILE BACK IN MOWER COUNTY, STELLA SERVED ON THE MOWER COUNTY WELFARE BOARD FROM 1958 TO 1966. SHE HAS CONTINUED HER MOWER COUNTY CIVIC SERVICE AND IS PRESENTLY SERVING ON THE MOWER COUNTY ZONING COMMISSION OF WHICH SHE HAS BEEN A MEMBER SINCE 1967,

4 IN ADDITION, STELLA IS ALSO PRESENTLY SERVING AS A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF THE AUSTIN ACTIVITY CENTER FOR RETARDED CHILDREN. / AT THIS POINT, I SIMPLY MUST ADD SOME PERSONAL WORDS OF APPRECIATION TO STELLA. MANY OF YOU KNOW THAT MURIEL AND I HAVE A VERY SPECIAL INTEREST IN HELPING RETARDED CHILDREN. / WE KNOW THE HOPE AND SATISFACTION OF HELPING HANDICAPPED CHILDREN GROW AND LEARN; WE KNOW THE JOY IN HELPING THESE SPECIAL CHILDREN LOVE AND BE LOVED / AND WE ALSO KNOW THE FRUSTRATION AND DISAPPOINTMENT WITH LIMITATION OF RESOURCES -- FINANCIAL AND HUMAN -- THAT ARE DIRECTED TO THIS AREA OF CONCERN. / WE, THE FAMILIES OF THESE CHILDREN, AND OTHER INTERESTED CITIZENS APPRECIATE STELLA'S SINCERE CONCERN FOR CHILDREN.

4 / CHILDREN NEED STRENGTH TO LEAN ON, A SHOULDER TO CRY ON, AND AN EXAMPLE TO LEARN FROM. / STELLA JENSEN HAS UNSELFISHLY PROVIDED AN EXCELLENT EXAMPLE. / I AM SURE THAT STELLA'S DAUGHTER, MRS. MCCRORY OF SOUTH BEND, INDIANA, WHO IS WITH US TONIGHT -- WELCOME TO MINNESOTA -- TREASURES HER MOTHER'S FINE EXAMPLE. /

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AND WHILE SPEAKING OF FAMILY, WE SHOULD RECOGNIZE  
HERMAN JENSEN, STELLA'S HUSBAND. AS MY WIFE, MURIEL, CAN  
TELL YOU, BEING MARRIED TO A POLITICAL ACTIVIST IS NOT EASY

HOWEVER, I AM TOLD THAT STELLA HAS NEVER HAD A CROSS WORD  
FROM HIM DURING HER POLITICAL CAREER EVEN THOUGH SHE WORE OUT  
THREE OF HIS CARS POLITICING. PERHAPS WE SHOULD PLAN A  
HERMAN JENSEN APPRECIATION NIGHT.

*Herman  
Jensen  
Appreciation  
Night*

STELLA, I MUST ADD A SPECIAL PERSONAL THANK YOU TO  
YOU. DURING YOUR CAREER AS A DFL PARTY OFFICER, I HAVE  
BEEN A SENATOR, VICE PRESIDENT, AND PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE.

AS AN OFFICE HOLDER AND A CANDIDATE, I HAVE NEEDED THE  
ASSISTANCE AND LOYALTY OF GOOD, DEDICATED DFLERS! YOU,  
STELLA, HAVE BEEN A DEAR AND CHERISHED FRIEND. (I AM  
ESPECIALLY TOUCHED, STELLA, THAT YOU CHOSE TO ATTEND THE  
1968 CONVENTION AS A SPECTATOR IN ORDER TO BE PRESENT FOR  
MY NOMINATION.)

AND, STELLA, I REMEMBER ALSO THAT YOU ATTENDED THE  
1964 INAUGURATION. AND I'M SURE THAT YOU WON'T MIND MY  
TELLING ABOUT AN INCIDENT -- THE LIGHTER SIDE OF POLITICS --  
WHICH OCCURED ON YOUR TRIP TO WASHINGTON. IT SEEMS, MY  
FRIENDS, THAT FOLLOWING THE INAUGURATION, THE JOHN PILLSBURYS  
HAD A LOVELY RECEPTION AT THE WASHINGTON STATLER HOTEL FOR THE  
MINNESOTA PEOPLE IN ATTENDANCE. WHEN STELLA ARRIVED AT THE  
BEAUTIFULLY APPOINTED SUITE SO GRACIOUSLY BEING HOSTED BY



MR. PILLSBURY, THE PEOPLE IN ATTENDANCE WERE RATHER  
SUBDUED AND THERE WASN'T MUCH CONVERSATION IN PROGRESS,  
AS MR. PILLSBURY GREETED HER, STELLA, IN HER USUAL  
EFFUSIVE MANNER, SAID IN A RATHER LOUD VOICE, "HOW  
IS BETTY CROCKER?" -- TO WHICH MR. PILLSBURY REPLIED,  
"WE MUST HAVE A PRACTICAL JOKER HERE." STELLA, STILL  
INNOCENTLY WANTING TO MAKE CONVERSATION REPEATED,  
"NO, I REALLY MEAN IT -- HOW IS BETTY CROCKER?" FINALLY,  
SOMEONE POINTED OUT THAT BETTY CROCKER ADVERTISED GENERAL  
MILLS PRODUCTS AND NOT PILLSBURY PRODUCTS, MUCH TO  
STELLA'S CHAGRIN AND AMUSEMENT.

ALTHOUGH WE ALL CHERISH THE AMUSING AND HAPPY TIMES,  
POLITICS IS SERIOUS BUSINESS, NOT A BOY'S GAME WHERE YOU  
CAN PICK UP THE BALL AND RUN HOME IF THINGS DON'T GO ACCORDING  
TO YOUR IDEA OF WHO SHOULD WIN. POLITICS IS GOOD WORK AND IT  
IS HARD WORK. AND THIS IS WHY WE APPRECIATE STELLA AND ALL  
THOSE LIKE HER WHO HAVE AND DO SERVE AS DFL OFFICERS AND WORK  
DILIGENTLY IN CAMPAIGNS AS WELL AS DOING THE DAY-TO-DAY WORK  
OF KEEPING OUR PARTY ALIVE AND VITAL BETWEEN ELECTION CONTESTS --  
WHO HAVE CONTINUED TO LOYALLY SERVE DURING GOOD TIMES AND BAD,

WE HAVE TALKED TONIGHT OF HONORING STELLA AND OF THANKING  
HER. WE ARE HAPPY TO PARTICIPATE IN OCCASIONS SUCH AS THIS,  
AND THESE OCCASIONS BECOME HAPPY MEMORIES.

BUT WHAT A GREAT THING IT WOULD BE IF WE COULD DEDICATE OURSELVES TO AN ON-GOING TRIBUTE TO STELLA AND TO ALL THOSE LIKE HER WHO HAVE AND WILL BE THE LIFEBLOOD OF OUR PARTY. THIS IS INDEED SOMETHING WE CAN DO.

↳ THE ESSENCE OF POLITICS IS TO TRANSLATE THE CONCERNS AND THE CREATIVE RESPONSES OF A VAST CITIZENRY INTO EFFECTIVE AND HUMANE LAWS. ↳ WE CAN DEDICATE OURSELVES TO A POLITICS WHICH DWELLS ON PEACE, PROGRESS, AND PEOPLE. ↳ WE KNOW AND ARE DISSATISFIED WITH THE STATE OF THE COUNTRY AND WITH SOME OF THE CONDITIONS IN OUR STATE OF MINNESOTA. ↳ WE KNOW THAT OUR COUNTRY AND OUR STATE FACE CRISES THAT DEMAND ACTION. BUT WE ALSO KNOW THAT, IN AMERICA, GOVERNMENTS DO NOT FALL IN TIMES OF CRISES; THEY LINGER ON TILL THE FIRST TUESDAY AFTER THE FIRST MONDAY OF NOVEMBER. WE CAN DEDICATE OURSELVES IN 1972 TO ELECTING PEOPLE COMMITTED TO THESE GOALS -- PEACE, PROGRESS, PEOPLE.

WE, AS MINNESOTA DEMOCRATS, HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO INFLUENCE NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL POLICY BY HELPING TO ELECT A DEMOCRATIC PRESIDENT -- A PRESIDENT WHO WILL TRULY BE THE PEOPLE'S LOBBYIST -- AND BY RETURNING OUR FINE SENIOR SENATOR WALTER MONDALE TO THE U. S. SENATE. AND MAKE NO MISTAKE ABOUT IT, WALTER MONDALE IS AS FINE A SENATOR AS ANY STATE COULD HAVE, AND HIS ELECTION IS ABSOLUTELY VITAL TO THE FUTURE OF OUR COUNTRY.

WE, AS DFLERS, HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO ATTACK CRUCIAL PROBLEMS AND REVITALIZE STATE GOVERNMENT BY ELECTING A DFL LEGISLATURE. In 1970, THIS DEDICATION ELECTED A GOVERNOR, WENDELL ANDERSON, BY NEARLY 150,000 VOTES, THE LARGEST VICTORY FOR A DFL GOVERNOR IN THE PARTY'S HISTORY. In 1970, THIS DEDICATION RESULTED IN THE RECAPTURING OF THE OFFICES OF LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR AND ATTORNEY GENERAL BY HEALTHY MARGINS -- AND WE CAN INDEED BE VERY PROUD OF RUDY PERPICH AND WARREN SPANNAUS. In 1970, THIS DEDICATION RESULTED IN THE GREATEST LEGISLATIVE GAINS IN ANY ONE YEAR BY EITHER PARTY IN THE STATE'S HISTORY. In ADDITION, THIS DEDICATION RESULTED IN MY RETURNING TO THE SENATE WITH THE GREATEST MARGIN OF MY CAREER.

I AM CONVINCED THAT IF OUR PARTY HONESTLY, CONSCIENTIOUSLY, AND FORTHRIGHTLY PERFORMS ITS RESPONSIBILITIES -- PUTS FORTH ITS ABLEST CANDIDATES, OFFERS A SOUND PROGRAM AND THEN DEDICATES ITSELF TO THE BASIC HARD WORK OF WINNING ELECTIONS -- THE ELECTORATE WILL RESPOND AFFIRMATIVELY. WE CAN ELECT A PRESIDENT, A SENATOR, CONGRESSMEN, AND GIVE OUR GOVERNOR THE DFL MAJORITIES HE NEEDS IN OUR STATE HOUSE AND SENATE.

TO ACHIEVE OUR GOALS, WE NEED DEMOCRATIC UNITY. UNITY DOES NOT MEAN ARBITRARY OR ENFORCED UNITY IN PLACE OF FREEDOM OR DIVERSITY.

(THE DFL HAS BEEN A VITAL PARTY CONCERNED WITH ISSUES AND PRINCIPLES. WE HAVE AGREED AND WE HAVE DISAGREED, BUT WE HAVE CONTINUED TO PROVIDE A FORUM FOR DEBATE, DIALOGUE, AND DISSENT. IT IS AN IMPORTANT PART OF OUR PARTY BUSINESS TO DISCUSS PRESSING ISSUES.) UNITY DOES MEAN THAT WE WORK TOGETHER TO ACTIVATE ALL DFLERS; TO IDENTIFY UNREGISTERED VOTERS AND TO RECRUIT NEW DFLERS; TO STAFF AND WAGE EFFECTIVE CAMPAIGNS. WE MUST INCLUDE ALL PEOPLE -- BLACK AND WHITE, RICH AND POOR, OLD AND YOUNG. WE NEED IN THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY THE WISDOM OF EXPERIENCE. BUT WE MUST NOT LET OUR PARTY GROW OLD IN SPIRIT!

JOHN GARDNER HAS EXPRESSED THE ESSENCE OF OUR NEED FOR UNITY AND DEDICATION BEAUTIFULLY. GARDNER REMINDS US: "THE <sup>*cynic*</sup> CRITIC SAYS, 'ONE MAN CAN'T DO ANYTHING'. I SAY, ONE MAN INTERACTING CREATIVELY WITH OTHERS CAN MOVE THE WORLD."

SO, STELLA, TONIGHT WE GIVE OUR THANKS AND OUR AFFECTION TO YOU AND WE DEDICATE OURSELVES TO CONTINUING YOUR EFFORTS AND THE EFFORTS OF MANY OTHER DEMOCRATS TO MAKE PEACE, PROGRESS, AND PEOPLE THE PRIORITIES OF ALL LEVELS OF AMERICAN GOVERNMENT!



Telegram - Mon - Oct 11th :

Please convey to Stella Jensen  
greetings from all of us in  
the 2nd District. We are  
looking forward to working  
with her & feel fortunate  
that she is now from the  
2nd Dist. We are very

sincerely looking forward to  
~~continuing~~ our association with  
her.

Elmer Miller  
2nd Dist. Chmn.

Ann Ober  
2nd Dist Chmn.



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